

SPS/TBT Notifications Affecting Agricultural Trade

Listed below are proposed changes in international agricultural, food and related standards as notified via the World Trade Organization; The first table provides a summary of all notifications; Individual details follow separately. Interested parties may obtain a full text of any notification for review and COMMENT; simply check the "Request a Copy" check box next to the Notification and return by fax (202) 690-0677 to the attention of Deborah A. Thompson, Food Safety Technical Services Division in USDA/FAS.

Please provide us with your E-mail address (on the request form). For questions regarding policy matters, call Carolyn Fillmore Wilson (202) 720-2239, otherwise Ms. Thompson at (202) 720-9124 for address/telephone changes.

NOTE - Please include your name/fax number on all request forms.

<u>Type</u>	<u>WTO Number</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>FSTSD #</u>	<u>Request a Copy</u>
SPS	EEC/108/A1	Feedstuffs	European Union	00.0391.A1	<input type="checkbox"/>
SPS	PHL/27/Add.	Animal and Meat from UK	Philippines	01.0135.A1	<input type="checkbox"/>
SPS	EEC/133/R1/	Animals and Products - TSE	European Union	01.0446.RA	<input type="checkbox"/>
SPS	JPN/80/C1	Processed Foods made from GMO Potatoes	Japan	02.0019.C1	<input type="checkbox"/>
SPS	JPN/83	Milk and Milk Products	Japan	02.0106	<input type="checkbox"/>
SPS	PHL/38	Processed Dog Food and Cat Pet Foods	Philippines	02.0107	<input type="checkbox"/>
SPS	PHL/39	Meat and Meat Products for Food	Philippines	02.0108	<input type="checkbox"/>
SPS	THA/85	Process in the Food Industry	Thailand	02.0109	<input type="checkbox"/>
SPS	THA/86	Cereals, Pulses and Derived Products	Thailand	02.0110	<input type="checkbox"/>
SPS	THA/87	Spices and Condiments- Food Additives	Thailand	02.0111	<input type="checkbox"/>
SPS	THA/88	Vegetables and Derived Products	Thailand	02.0112	<input type="checkbox"/>
SPS	NZL/169	Bovine Semen	New Zealand	02.0113	<input type="checkbox"/>
SPS	NZL/170	Used Tyres	New Zealand	02.0114	<input type="checkbox"/>
TBT	JPN/41	Alcoholic Beverages	Japan	02.0069	<input type="checkbox"/>
TBT	JPN/42	Frozen Vegetable Foods	Japan	02.0070	<input type="checkbox"/>

FSTSD # 00.0391.A1 **Country -** European Union **Product** Feedstuffs

Comment Deadline Date - **Enforcement Date -** **WTO Type/Number -** SPS EEC/108/A

Objective - Food Safety, Animal Health

Description - General Directorate SANCO is proposing a regulatory draft with the aims to facilitate trade and simplify existing legislation. The draft (SANCO/2001/4809 Rev.4) amends Council Decision 2000/766/EEC (notified as G/SPS/N/EEC/108) concerning certain protection measures with regard to transmissible spongiform encephalopathies and the feeding of animal protein (Official Journal of the European Communities, Number L306 of 7 December 2000, pages 32-33) and Council Decision 2001/9/EC, with regards to Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy and the feeding of animal proteins (not notified to the SPS Committee).

It extends the list of derogated animal proteins by allowing the feed-use of eggs and eggs-products in feed intended for farm animals. It also allows establishments producing both fish and fisheries product for human consumption, and fishmeal for animal feeding to process fish meals for non ruminants. This draft also takes over the prohibition to feed proteins from mammalian origin to ruminant animals and extends the scope of the origin of

FSTSD # 00.0391.A1 **Country** - European Union **Product** Feedstuffings
prohibited feed-proteins to all animal species.

The European Communities welcomes comments until 15 March 2002 at the latest.

Texts are available from:

European Commission
Directorate General for Health and Consumer Protection
Directorate E, Unit E/3
International Food, Veterinary and Phytosanitary Questions
Rue de la Loi 86
1049 Brussels
Telephone: +(322) 299 50 26/295 84 20
Telefax: +(322) 296 27 92
E-mail/Internet: sps@cec.eu.int

Once it is adopted, it will be published in the Official Journal of the European Communities (OJEC). The OJEC is available at <http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/oj/index.html>.

FSTSD # 01.0135.A1 **Country** - Philippines **Product** Animal and Meat from UK
Comment Deadline Date - **Enforcement Date** - 02/05/02 **WTO Type/Number** - SPS PHL/27/Ad
Objective - Food Safety, Animal Health, Protect Humans from Animal/Plant Pest or Disease
Description - ADDENDUM reads: Department of Agriculture (DA) Memorandum Order (MO) No. 1, Series of 2002, lifts the temporary ban on the importation of live pigs, semen, pork, pork products and by-products from the United Kingdom, subject to certain conditions contained in the said MO.

The temporary ban was instituted through DA MO No. 4, Series of 2001 and notified to WTO Members on 23 March 2001.

The temporary ban is lifted effective 5 February 2002, following recognition of the Office international des Epizooties (OIE) of the restoration of foot-and-mouth disease (FMD)-free status without vaccination in the United Kingdom.

Any comments on this notification should be addressed to:

Philippine National Enquiry Point
Office of the Director
Policy Research Service
Department of Agriculture
3rd Floor, DA Building, Elliptical Road
Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines
Tel: (632) 926 7439
Fax: (632) 928 0590
E-mail: epad.polreser@eudoramail.com

FSTSD # 01.0446.RA **Country** - European Union **Product** Animals and Products - TSE
Comment Deadline Date - **Enforcement Date** - **WTO Type/Number** - SPS EEC/133/R
Objective - Food Safety, Animal Health
Description - The text under "description of content" on the notification G/SPS/N/EEC/133/Rev.1 of 14 February 2002 is replaced by the following text:

Description of content: The regulatory proposal notified hereby amends Regulation No 999/2001 laying down rules for the prevention, control and eradication of certain Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (notified in G/SPS/N/EEC/72, 16 April 1999),

FSTSD # 01.0446.RA **Country** - European Union **Product** Animals and Products - TSE
as last amended by Regulation No 1326/2001 (G/SPS/N/EEC/133, 3 August 2001). Major changes are: (1) The Specified Risk Material (SRM) list is enlarged to include mesenteric tissue from bovine animals of all ages, (2) Pending the exporting country classification, the import certificate should contain an additional health declaration stating that either:

- the rules concerning the absence of SRM and mechanically recovered meat and stunning/slaughter methods are complied with; or
- the products are derived from animals born, continuously reared and slaughtered in countries where the presence of BSE is highly unlikely, (i.e. countries classified GBR Risk-Level I)."

The text in item 8 "relevant documents..." of notification G/SPS/N/EEC/133/Rev.1 of 14 February 2002 is replaced by the following text:

Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: Regulation (EC) No 270/2002, (Available in all official EC languages)."

FSTSD # 02.0019.C1 **Country** - Japan **Product** Processed Foods made from GMO Potatoe
Comment Deadline Date - 2/28/2002 **Enforcement Date** - Feb 2003 **WTO Type/Number** - SPS JPN/80/C1

Objective - Food Safety

Description - ADDENDUM reads: Item 10 on the notification, Proposed date of entry into force, should read: February 2003.

Description of content (from original notification): This amendment adds processed foods made from potatoes as foods which recombinant DNA or resulting protein remains to this items which are subject to mandatory labelling (i.e. 24 items such as Tofu, cone snack have been already designated) under the labelling standard for genetically modified foods notified by G/SPS/N/JPN/56. Import notification becomes mandatory for these processed foods.

FSTSD # 02.0106 **Country** - Japan **Product** Milk and Milk Products
Comment Deadline Date - 5/16/2002 **Enforcement Date** - **WTO Type/Number** - SPS JPN/83

Objective - Food Safety, Animal Health, Protect Humans from Animal/Plant Pest or Disease, Protect Territory from Other Damage from Pests

Description - (1) Establishment of manufacturing requirements for skimmed milk powder, (2) Revision of standards for pasteurization for milk (cow milk, pasteurized goat milk, partially skimmed milk, skimmed milk and processed milk), (3) Establishment of manufacturing requirement for natural cheese, (4) Addition of skimmed milk powder and natural cheese to the food group under the Comprehensive Sanitation-Controlled Manufacturing Process, (5) Revision of definitions of milk and milk products, and (6) Revision of standards for containers and packages of milk and milk products.

FSTSD # 02.0107 **Country** - Philippines **Product** Processed Dog Food and Cat Pet Foods
Comment Deadline Date - **Enforcement Date** - 01/04/02 **WTO Type/Number** - SPS PHL/38

Objective - Food Safety, Animal Health, Protect Humans from Animal/Plant Pest or Disease, Protect Territory from Other Damage from Pests

Description - This Administrative Order is a revision of the existing guidelines on the importation of pet foods as an effort to harmonize existing import rules and regulations in accordance with an increasing global trade while ensuring adequate agriculture quarantine.

Existing guidelines require that importation of pet food shall need an issuance of import permit by BAI-DA. With the imposition of this order, an import permit will no longer be required for the importation of pet foods, as long as, the imported pet food is accompanied by an International Veterinary Certificate issued by the Veterinary Authority of the exporting country.

FSTSD # 02.0107 **Country -** Philippines **Product** Processed Dog Food and Cat Pet Foods
FSTSD # 02.0108 **Country -** Philippines **Product** Meat and Meat Products for Food
Comment Deadline Date - **Enforcement Date -** 02/27/02 **WTO Type/Number -** SPS PHL/39
Objective - Food Safety, Animal Health,, Protect Humans from Animal/Plant Pest or Disease, Protect Territory from Other Damage from Pests
Description - This shall be an additional requirement governing imports of the above-mentioned items to the Philippines. All other Administrative Orders, Memorandum Orders and other issuance governing imports shall remain in force.

FSTSD # 02.0109 **Country -** Thailand **Product** Process in the Food Industry
Comment Deadline Date - **Enforcement Date -** 09/15/01 **WTO Type/Number -** SPS THA/85
Objective - Food Safety
Description - This notification prescribes as follows:

-Clauses 1(21), (52) and (56) of the Notification of the Ministry of Public Health (No.193) B.E.2543(2000) Production Methods, Tools and Equipment used in the Production and Storage of Food dated 19 September B.E.2543(200) are withdrawn.

-Clause 1(57) "Frozen Food" of the Notification of the Ministry of Public Health (No.193) B.E.2543(2000) Production Methods, Tools and Equipment used in the Production and Storage of Food dated 19 September B.E.2543(2000) is withdrawn and replaced by the following statement: "(57) Prepared or processed frozen foods"

FSTSD # 02.0110 **Country -** Thailand **Product** Cereals, Pulses and Derived Products
Comment Deadline Date - 6/25/2002 **Enforcement Date -** 12/07/01 **WTO Type/Number -** SPS THA/86
Objective - Food Safety
Description - Clause 2 of the Notification of the Ministry of Public Health (No.217) B.E.2544(2001) Amendment to the Notification of Ministry of Public Health (No.215) B.E.2544(2001) of 8 June B.E.2544(2001) is withdrawn and replaced by the following statement:

"Clause 2 Importers of corn products according to Clause 1 for sale in the Kingdom of Thailand must present at the customs houses the result of the food analysis or a certificate of freedom from the Cry 9C DNA Sequence or protein produced from Cry 9C DNA Sequence, as the case may be, as follows:

(1)the result of the food analysis issued by domestic government bodies or bodies designated by the Food Committee;

(2)the result of the food analysis or the certificate issued by a responsible government bodies of the country of origin or by the private bodies certified by responsible government bodies of the country of origin."

FSTSD # 02.0111 **Country -** Thailand **Product** Spices and Condiments- Food Additives
Comment Deadline Date - 6/25/2002 **Enforcement Date -** 12/07/01 **WTO Type/Number -** SPS THA/87
Objective - Food Safety
Description - Clause 2.11 of the Notification of the Ministry of Public Health (No.151) B.E.2536(1993) Prescribing Materials Prohibited in Foods dated 28 December B.E.2536(1993) is withdrawn and replaced by the following statement:

"Clause 2.11 Methyl alcohol or methanol unless used as food processing aids for export purposes."

FSTSD # 02.0112 **Country -** Thailand **Product** Vegetables and Derived Products
Comment Deadline Date - 6/25/2002 **Enforcement Date -** 06/04/02 **WTO Type/Number -** SPS THA/88
Objective - Food Safety

FSTSD # 02.0112 **Country -** Thailand **Product** Vegetables and Derived Products
Description - A modification of the Notification of Ministry of Public Health (No.202) B.E..2544(2001)
Products made from the hydrolysis or fermentation of soybean protein. Permissible limit of 3-MCPD or 3-Chloro-1,2-propanediol shall not exceed 1 mg per 1 kg of product made from the hydrolysis or fermentation of soybean protein.

FSTSD # 02.0113 **Country -** New Zealand **Product** Bovine Semen
Comment Deadline Date - 6/8/2002 **Enforcement Date -** 06/15/02 **WTO Type/Number -** SPS NZL/169

Objective - Animal Health

Description - This draft import health standard (IHS) allows for the importation of bovine semen into New Zealand from Japan. It includes the following safeguards against diseases of concern:

- (a) Due to a case of BSE confirmed in an indigenous cow in Japan on 22 September 2001. All references to BSE have been removed as semen has been shown to not be a vehicle for the BSE agent (OIE Code). The previous IHS required that the exporting country was free of BSE.
- (b) As the OIE declared Japan to be free of FMD on the 29 September 2000. The draft IHS has been amended to only allow the export of bovine semen collected since 1 October 2000.
- (c) Due to a detection of bluetongue in Japan on 12 November 2001, clause 6.2 of Veterinary Certificate A has been amended to incorporate the relevant Articles from Chapter 2.1.9 on bluetongue from the 2001 OIE International Animal Health Code, mammals, birds and bees. Previously there were no safeguards against bluetongue in the IHS.

All references to the New Zealand Semen Standard 93/105S/NZ have been removed and replaced with reference to the OIE International Animal Health Code, mammals, birds and bees or an actual laboratory test.

FSTSD # 02.0114 **Country -** New Zealand **Product** Used Tyres
Comment Deadline Date - 5/1/2002 **Enforcement Date -** 05/02/02 **WTO Type/Number -** SPS NZL/170

Objective - Animal Health, Plant Protection, Protect Humans from Animal/Plant Pest or Disease, Protect Territory from Other Damage from Pests

Description - The existing import health standard contains measures to protect plant and animal life or health. The draft import health standard will strengthen the existing standard by reducing the risk of entry of pests and/or vectors for the transmission of disease (such as mosquitoes of human health significance) through the importation of used tyres. The draft standard has been modified to require fumigation for all imported second hand tyres (not on rims). Previously the fumigation requirement applied only to commercial consignments or used tyres shipped in sea containers. Summary of conditions:

- (a) Accompanied by appropriate documentation specifying number of tyres: type of tyres; container number; port of origin; shipment details; consignor; and consignee.
- (b) Every consignment of used tyres must be free of contamination by any of the following:
 - (i) animals, insects or other invertebrates (in any living life stage including, eggs, egg casings or egg rafts), or any organic material of animal origin (including blood, bones, fibre, meat, secretions, excretions, etc); or
 - (ii) plants or plant products (including fruit, seeds, leaves, twigs, roots, bark, sawdust, etc); or
 - (iii) soil; or
 - (iv) water.

NB: Of particular concern are exotic mosquitoes of human health significance.

- (c) All used tyres (not on rims) must be fumigated with methyl bromide on arrival by a MAF approved operator.
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FSTSD # 02.0069 **Country -** Japan **Product** Alcoholic Beverages
Comment Deadline Date - 5/20/2002 **Enforcement Date -** 07/02 **WTO Type/Number -** TBT JPN/41

FSTSD # 02.0069 **Country -** Japan **Product** Alcoholic Beverages

Objective - Protection of the consumers interest

Description - Revision of standards for labelling for liquor made from genetically modified agricultural products to add high oleic acid soybeans obtained through a technique of genetic modification and processed foods mainly made of such soybeans (including foods subsequently processed from such foods), based on the revision of "Labelling Standard for GMOs determined by the Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries based on Article 7, Paragraph 1 of the Quality Labelling Standard for Processed Foods and on Article 7, Paragraph 1 of the Quality Labelling Standard for Perishable Foods".

FSTSD # 02.0070 **Country -** Japan **Product** Frozen Vegetable Foods

Comment Deadline Date - 5/28/2002 **Enforcement Date -** **WTO Type/Number -** TBT JPN/42

Objective - Protection of the consumers interest

Description - The Standard for Labelling on Quality of Frozen Vegetable Foods is to be established for the purpose of consumers' choice of commodities.

End of Report.